



elco news

Newsletter of the East Larimer County Water District

April 2022

Office Hours and Location

The ELCO office is located at 232 South Link Lane, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. The phone number is (970) 493-2044.

Emergencies

Customers in need of emergency service can call (970)493-2044 after regular office hours. Emergency calls are routed to an answering service which can dispatch on-call personnel.

For Your Information

ELCO customers have the ability to check their accounts and pay their bills via the Internet. Customers can access their accounts to determine the status of payments, monitor consumption, and authorize payment from their checking accounts or via credit card. ELCO customer accounts can be accessed by logging on to the District's website at www.elcowater.org.

ELCO Independent Mail Ballot Election

The East Larimer County (ELCO) Water District will be conducting an Independent Mail Ballot Election to be held on May 3, 2022 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Mail ballots will be mailed to eligible electors between April 11, 2022 and April 18, 2022. At that time two (2) Directors will be elected to serve three (3) year terms.

The ELCO Water District received Candidate Profiles from three candidates running for two Director seats. Candidate Profiles are included in this newsletter (*See Back*) and posted on the District website at www.elcowater.org. Any campaigning done by the candidates is under their own supervision and subject to Campaign and Political Finance statute and rules.

Applications for absentee voters' ballots are available from the office of the Designated Election Official:

Stacie Pacheco
C/O Icenogle, Seaver, Pogue, P.C.
4725 South Monaco Street, Ste 360
Denver, CO 80237
spacheco@isp-law.com or (303) 867-3000

An application for an absentee voter's ballot shall be filed with the Designated Election Official no later than the close of business on the Tuesday immediately preceding the election, which date is April 26, 2022.

It is recommended that you mail your ballot or drop it off in the locked drop box. The drop-off locations and the hours during which the drop-off locations will be open for delivery of mail ballots:

Location No. 1: East Larimer County Water District
232 South Link Lane
Fort Collins, Colorado 80524

Hours: 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. on weekdays through May 2, 2022*
7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on May 3, 2022

Location No. 2: Icenogle Seaver Pogue, P.C.
4725 South Monaco Street, Suite 360
Denver, Colorado 80237

Hours: 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on weekdays through May 2, 2022
7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on May 3, 2022

***ELCO office hours will be from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM (noon) on Friday April 15, 2022.**



2022 ELCO Water District Board Candidate Profiles:

James Clay

Jim has served on the ELCO board for 9 years and understands the challenges the district faces trying to navigate the increasingly complex water environment in Northern Colorado. Jim and his wife Lisa moved to Fort Collins in 1985 raising their 3 children here. Fast forward to today and they have welcomed in the last two years 4 grandkids to their growing family. Jim and Lisa own and operate Advance Tank and Construction (ATC) which is headquartered in Wellington, CO. Advance Tank is a heavy plate steel fabricator and erector which specializes in the construction of large diameter welded steel tanks throughout the country. Over his 37 years with ATC Jim has held almost every position from Field Hand to President, giving him a broad experience level in finance, HR, management, systems development, safety and leadership. His time includes working on countless water related construction projects at ATC which has helped him better understand the issues related to the delivery of water that ELCO faces in running a water service organization.

Other than ATC, Jim and Lisa started up two ACE Hardware stores, one in Windsor in 1996 and one in Fort Collins in 2003. They sold those businesses to friends in order to concentrate on ATC, but very much enjoyed the retail hardware business during that time.

Jim volunteers at St Joseph's Catholic Church in Fort Collins. He serves on the Finance Council as well as chairs the maintenance committee which has Jim working with staff to plan and help organize repairs on a facility with parts that date back to the 1920's.

Jim grew up in Grand Rapids, MI and went to Michigan State University.

In his spare time Jim enjoys playing with his grandchildren, hunting and fishing, and spending time in his workshop. He and Lisa also attend as many CSU football, volleyball and basketball games as their schedule allows.

Joseph H. Fonfara

My wife Paula and I have lived in Fort Collins since 1976 and have resided within the boundaries of ELCO since 1992. Our two daughters, their husbands and our six grandchildren all reside in the Fort Collins area as well.

I received my Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Oklahoma State University in 1971. Thereafter I received my Juris Doctor Law degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1975 and a second law degree, a Masters of Law, specializing in property and natural resources, from Southern Methodist University in 1976.

I practiced law in Fort Collins from 1976 until my retirement from the practice of law in September 2020. My law practice emphasized real estate development and business law and I have represented various sanitation districts, metropolitan districts and water districts, including ELCO during my legal career. Outside of my law practice, I served as a member of the governing body of numerous nonprofit organizations including my church, my children's school, my homeowners' association and Hospice of Larimer County.

My experience as a transactional lawyer (as opposed to a litigation lawyer) has enhanced my problem solving skills that may well be beneficial to ELCO as it faces new challenges in the future including capital expansion projects to ensure an adequate water distribution system in a rapidly developing area; maintaining an adequate water inventory to ensure sufficient water supplies for ELCO's customers; and maintaining reasonable water rates as a water service provider in the Fort Collins area.

My business training and familiarity with legal matters, real estate development and my representation of water districts, sanitation districts and metropolitan districts has given me a helpful perspective on the issues that ELCO will undoubtedly encounter in the coming years.

I have served on the Board of Directors of ELCO since October of 2020 and would be honored to continue to serve the constituents of ELCO as it faces future challenges including rapid growth within the District's boundaries during a time in which reliable water resources are becoming increasingly difficult to secure.

Nick Armstrong

I'm Nick Armstrong – a father of 2 wonderful kiddos, an award-winning entrepreneur, and currently serve on the Boxelder Sanitation Board of Directors as well as President of Maple Hill HOA. I'm the lead organizer of Fort Collins Comic Con (since 2015 my team and I have raised over \$120K for the Poudre River Public Library District) and Founded in FoCo (formerly Fort Collins Startup Week) which helps serve over 1,000 entrepreneurs with free resources, consulting, coaching, and classes each year.

My work has largely focused on bolstering literacy, arts and culture, and community building. In 2021, I ran for Fort Collins City Council in District 1 and lost by 33 votes. The whole experience was so much fun, especially connecting with so many neighbors. I knocked on every door in the District I was allowed to and I've carried those conversations with me into everything I do.

As a Board member of Maple Hill HOA, I helped to coordinate a \$25,000 grant to fund the largest mural in Fort Collins (the 190' Vibrant Forest by Kristen Vohs at the Richards Lake underpass), Moving Mindful Maple Hill – a project aimed at fostering connections between neighbors to help reduce stress through exercise, meditation, and friendship, the Maple Hill Marketplace – a local farmers-market style event, and more.

As a long-term resident of Fort Collins, arriving in 2003 to attend CSU's College of Business, I've seen first-hand the growth in North East Fort Collins (encompassing much of ELCO's service area) and ardently support water conservation and environmental stewardship. My home was one of the first in Maple Hill to be xeriscaped and I often advise neighbors interested in doing similar projects. The Maple Hill HOA Board has taken on the task of identifying areas where we can reduce our community's water usage and empower sustainable projects for neighbors.

My goal on any board is to learn as much as possible as quickly as possible so I can serve the community well. I'm very curious about processes and systems. If elected, I would like to explore and encourage collaboration between different utility providers in terms of data transparency and best practices around conservation and water quality, increasing communication with stakeholders, and the efficacy of partnering with the City of Fort Collins and Northern Water to expand availability for the Xeriscape Incentive Program and other conservation rebate programs where ELCO's service boundary intersects with the City.

